OLD HOMES *and* HISTORY AROUND FREDERICKSBURG

By

JOHN T. GOOLRICK

HANOVER ST.
MERCER ST.
CHARLOTTE ST.
WOLFE ST.
NATIONAL BOUL.
LEE AV.
WEEDON ST.
SHEPPARD ST.
WILLIS ST.
FAIR
EDWARD ST.
PRINCESS ST.
MAIN ST.
WATER
NATIONAL CEMETERY
RICHMOND
V. C. R. R.
PRINCE
FREDERICK ST.
PR. ELIZABETH ST.
DIXON ST.
KINGS HIGHWAY
R. F. & P. R. R.
TIDE-WATER TRAIL
US 1
US 17
37

FREDERICKSBURG

VIRGINIA

OLD HOMES AND HISTORY AROUND FREDERICKSBURG

OLD HOMES AND HISTORY AROUND FREDERICKSBURG

The Northern Neck and the Southside
Settled and Storied Counties
and Their Stately Mansions

BY

JOHN T. GOOLRICK

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OLD HOMES AND HISTORY AROUND FREDERICKSBURG

The Northern Neck and the Southside Stafford and Spotsylvania Counties and Battle Sketches

By
JOHN T. GOOLRICK

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FOREWORD

In these necessarily brief sketches no attempt has been made at writing—the bare facts being compressed into the smallest space. This book is meant as a guide for those who wish to see Fredericksburg as well as a memento to take home, and may serve also as a historical reference book.

In "Fredericksburg" the pages are so arranged that if one starts in the center of the town and seeks each place consecutively, he will follow a route leading past each place with a minimum of detours, though there must be short side trips at some points.

Outside the city this is done as far as may be. The places along the two great arterial roads bordering the river are in order. The battlefields are briefly touched on at the last of the book.

Original sources and histories of Fredericksburg have been relied upon for information, and accuracy has been aimed at.

JOHN T. GOOLRICK.

Fredericksburg, Va.
June 15, 1929.

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OLD HOMES AND HISTORY AROUND FREDERICKSBURG

OLD HOMES AND HISTORY AROUND FREDERICKSBURG

The Leaselands

The official beginning of Fredericksburg as a town is commemorated by two markers, one on Lewis Street near Princess Anne, and one on Wolfe near Princess Anne. Running north and south between these markers, and from each of them eastward to the river, are the lines which bounded the original town.

There was a town upon the site long before the Leaselands was established, and there is good reason to believe that there was a settlement here as early as 1621, while one old grave found years ago in Stafford County, not far from Fredericksburg, bore the date 1617 on the tombstone, which has been lost or destroyed.

The grant for the Leaselands was issued May 2, 1671, by Sir William Berkeley to Thomas Royston and John Buckner, and thus May 2 is Fredericksburg's official birthday. That there were already settlers here is shown by the fact that the description states that the land bordered that of Captain Lawrence Smith, and records show that Captain Smith held a large tract at that time, which was officially confirmed to him when, March 17, 1674, he was made commander of a "fort or place of defense at or near the Falls of ye Rappahannock river." This fort was garrisoned with

one hundred and eleven men, who were to assemble at the beat of a drum for the defense of the fort. Shortly afterwards two hundred and fifty families were brought into the section about Fredericksburg.

Captain Smith's lands extended along the Rappahannock four miles from Fredericksburg, and it is believed that his home and the central place of the tract was at Smithfield, which was burned during the War, and which is near the present Mannsfield Hall country club.

The main "fort," however, was probably at Fredericksburg, for it was at the foot of the falls of the river that a crossing could most easily be made by a body of enemies, and this was the place where it was most necessary to be ready for defense against Indians or others. The other lands were used for agriculture.

At least two buildings, which date back to near this period, are still standing. One, on Amelia Street near Water Street, is a long, steep-roofed brick building in which, in 1722, it is said, "Sukey" Livingston had a coffee house, and the other is the old stone warehouse at the Fredericksburg end of the bridge over the Rappahannock, which is approached by way of Commerce Street. These two buildings belong to the 1600's, and are probably about the oldest buildings in the city.

Fredericksburg was incorporated under the present name in honor of Frederick, Prince of Wales, in 1727.

FREDERICKSBURG

The Barton House Site

(Now Princess Anne Hotel)

This famous old home, where resided Brigadier General Barton, of the Confederate Army, was torn down some years ago and the Princess Anne Hotel built upon the site.

In the old house General Robert E. Lee was a guest for a week in 1869 when he came to Fredericksburg from Lexington to attend the Conference of the Episcopal Church. Daniel Webster was a guest once in the Barton house, as well as many other distinguished men.

The home was built in 1785 by one of that distinguished family, the Maurys, James Maury, who was sent by President George Washington as the first ambassador from the United States to England. In it Maury lived for many years with his family.

The house was colonial in style and one of the most pretentious residences in the city.

During the Battle of Fredericksburg it was used as headquarters by several officers for short periods, and was also put to use as a first-aid station for wounded officers coming back from the front.

FREDERICKSBURG

The City Hall

The present City Hall was built in 1813.

The first City Hall, which had an assembly room and coffee room, stood at the corner of Market Alley and Main Streets. In it was held a reception and dance for Lafayette and other French and American officers in 1781, after Yorktown, when the officers also were given a public function at the Rising Sun Tavern.

The great Peace Ball, at which Mary Washington was present, was held in the old hall in 1783 after the treaty of peace with England was signed, when all the famous French and American officers were present with all the gentlemen and belles of that day. Lafayette was not present, being then in France.

Lafayette came back to Fredericksburg in 1824, and was given a reception and ball in the upstairs assembly room of the present City Hall, when the building was brilliantly lighted and wines and liquors provided in plentitude, as shown by the expense accounts, on file at the courthouse.

FREDERICKSBURG

St. George's Church

When St. George's Parish came into existence is not certain, but it is of record as being established when Spotsylvania County was created in 1720. Colonel Henry Willis contracted to build a church on the present site for seventy-five thousand pounds of tobacco (or about $5,000, a goodly sum then), in 1732, and the edifice must have been a handsome one. The first rector was sent by the governor, and was Rev. Patrick Henry, uncle of the great orator.

In 1751 the first bell rang out in the steeple of the church, having been given by John Spotswood, son of the famous governor.

In the parish school, taught by the rector, Rev. James Marye, Jr., George Washington was educated, and here he wrote his "Rules of Civility and Decent Behavior." Washington's parents and brothers and sisters were all members of or attendants in the church, and Betty was married there.

In 1816 a brick church was built after the other burned. In 1849 the present beautiful edifice was completed, it being one of the handsomest specimens of early church architecture. General Lee attended here daily during conference in 1869.

FREDERICKSBURG

St. George's Cemetery

Princess Anne Street

Not knowing the exact plan of the city, those in charge of St. George's Cemetery in early days placed the fence far beyond its proper bounds, and many persons were buried in what are now Hanover and Prince George Streets, until in 1722 the city trustees made the church cease using the streets and draw back its fences. Many graves are now under the streets and sidewalks. Fielding Lewis and three of his children lie beneath the church steps, built over them. The father of George Washington's wife, Colonel John Dandridge, of New Kent, is buried in the yard. A stone placed by John Paul Jones, marks his brother William Paul's grave. The stone is fast crumbling away. The cemetery is across from the Princess Anne Hotel.

This ground was used as a cemetery before Fredericksburg was incorporated in 1727. It may date back to the earlier days, in 1625 or 1630.

FREDERICKSBURG

The Herndon House

Princess Anne and Prince George Streets

A story of heroism is connected with the Herndon House.

The house was built in 1822 by Dabney Herndon, whose son, Captain William Lewis Herndon, became a naval officer, and was the first explorer of the Amazon. In 1857, when commanding the *Central America,* Cuba to New York, with its crew and 407 passengers, his ship sprung a leak and sank in the Gulf Stream. The passengers were taken off in boats, with most of the crew, while Captain Herndon stood beside the American flag on the bridge in full uniform and, just before the ship plunged beneath the waves, lifted his hat in salute to the men and women in the boats. He refused to leave his ship, and was drowned.

His daughter, Ellen Lewis Herndon, married Chester A. Arthur. (See Glassell House.)

In 1862 President Abraham Lincoln delivered an address to citizens and soldiers from the steps on the Princess Anne Street side of the building.

FREDERICKSBURG

Presbyterian Church

Rev. Samuel Blaine Wilson, stopping in Fredericksburg in July, 1806, was annoyed by men in the tavern "drinking, cursing and gambling," and decided that this was a field for his labors. This led to the establishment here of the Presbyterian Church, with three members, one of whom was Polly Skelton, housekeeper for Mary Washington in the latter's old age.

The first church was at Amelia and Charles Streets, on the plot now occupied by the house known as Smithsonia. It was here that the first Sunday school in Virginia was organized, according to authentic information.

The present church was built July 26, 1833. The building stood during the Civil War and was used as a hospital, and Clara Barton nursed here. Two shells which struck the church during the bombardment of Fredericksburg may be seen in one of the front pillars.

FREDERICKSBURG

The Courthouse

Princess Anne Street, near Prince George

Built in 1852, the Fredericksburg Courthouse is an example of good architecture. During the Civil War the steeple was used as a signal station. General Couch had his headquarters here, and from the steeple watched his divisions going to slaughter against the stone wall. General Sumner and General Howard were with him.

In the Courthouse is the original copy of Mary Washington's will, signed by her. There are filed here the receipts for money expended to entertain Lafayette when he visited this city in 1824, and other interesting papers.

Writing of what he saw from the Courthouse steeple General Sumner said: "I exclaimed 'Oh, my God! Those poor men! Those poor men.' I remember the whole plain was covered with men, prostrate and dropping, those in front closing upon each other, the wounded coming back. I had never seen fighting like that or anything approximating it."

The bell, made by Revere, Boston (in the shop established by Paul Revere who made the famous ride), was donated in 1828 by Silas Wood.

FREDERICKSBURG

Masonic Lodge

Princess Anne and Hanover Streets

Lodge No. 4, A. F. & A. M., was organized in 1752. George Washington was initiated November 4, 1752, and that date is a Masonic holiday in many States. He was passed March 3, 1753, and raised August 4, 1753, remaining a member until he died. While he was also a member of Alexandria Lodge (a Mason then could belong to two lodges), he retained his membership in Fredericksburg Lodge, his home lodge, and it was from Fredericksburg that his death was officially reported.

The Lodge has rare relics of Washington, including a lock of his hair; passes given by him in the Revolution; old minute book recording his initiation, etc.

Lafayette was made a Mason in this Lodge in 1824. Colonel Fielding Lewis and Generals Weedon, Mercer, Wallace, Posey, Woodford, and Judge James Mercer are others among many great men who were members. A portrait of Washington, by Gilbert Stuart, hangs in the Lodge. The Lodge can be visited at any time.

FREDERICKSBURG

The Masonic Cemetery

Prince Charles and Prince George Streets

The Masonic Cemetery seems to have been established about 1750, the earliest tombstone standing now being dated 1752, and was bought and walled by the Fredericksburg Lodge of Masons, for members and their families.

General John Minor (1761-1816), who served in the Revolutionary War, is buried here. There is in this Cemetery also the grave of that remarkable adventurer, Lewis Littlepage, chancellor to Stanislaus Augustus, King of Poland, and general courtier, and ambassador, who died when but thirty-nine years old, after coming back to Fredericksburg. Robert Lewis, nephew of and secretary to President George Washington, also sleeps here. John Goolrick, who taught the youth of the town for forty-five years (1795-1840), and many members of the early and best known families are buried here.

FREDERICKSBURG

Lewis Littlepage's Tomb

In the Masonic Cemetery is the tomb of Lewis Littlepage, adventurer, courtier and poet. He went, when nineteen, to Madrid with the American ambassador, Mr. Jay. He left him, fought with a Spanish expedition to Minorca; joined the Duc D'Crillion, fought on shipboard at Gibraltar, where he met Lafayette; was given a sword by Charles II of France, and decorated chevalier. He went later to Poland, and became chancellor and secretary in the cabinet of Stanislaus Augustus, King of Poland. He was a secret envoy to the Triple Alliance, and special envoy to the court of Catherine of Russia. He fought in Tartary and Bessarabia in the Russian army (on leave from Stanislaus' court) as a major-general, and was instrumental in getting Catherine of Russia to make John Paul Jones admiral of her navy and fought at sea with Jones.

Littlepage fought last with Kosciusko, and after Poland's liberty was lost, came to Fredericksburg, where he died at the age of thirty-nine years, in 1802.

FREDERICKSBURG

James Monroe's Law Office

Prince Charles Street, near Commerce

James Monroe was born in Westmoreland County, came to Fredericksburg in his youth and lived with his uncle, Joseph Jones. After studying law he established his office in the building now standing on a lot which originally belonged to Fielding Lewis, who married Washington's sister. Monroe was a vestryman in St. George's Church, and was elected a town councilman, his first office, after which he continued in public office until he reached the Presidency and formulated the famous Monroe Doctrine.

The old office was purchased in 1927 by Lawrence G. Hooes, of Washington, a descendant of Monroe, and a great many Monroe relics are exhibited in it. A nominal charge is made for going through the place. The building is almost exactly as it was when Monroe had his law office there.

After Monroe's marriage he brought his bride to Fredericksburg, but the house in which they made their home has long since been destroyed. Their only daughter was born here.

FREDERICKSBURG

Old Slave Block

Commerce and Charles Streets

The old slave block at the corner of Commerce and Charles Streets was placed in front of the Old Planters Hotel, and served a double purpose, being used by ladies and gentlemen from 1800 onward for mounting and dismounting, and also before the Civil War for a place for auctioning slaves. That slaves were sold from the block was attested by many old citizens, and in 1929 Albert Crutchfield, an old negro who was sold on the block when eight years old, was still living and remembered the day his mother and her children were all auctioned off. The slave to be sold was placed on the block, a physician's certificate as to the slave's bodily condition was read, and the man or woman was then described and sold to the highest bidder. All but "bad niggers" were sold locally, and families were not broken up except when some member was bad or dangerous, when he was "sold South." Slaves brought as high as $2,000 each just prior to the Civil War.

FREDERICKSBURG

Mary Washington House

Prince Charles and Lewis Streets

The home in which Mary Washington, mother of George Washington, lived from some time in 1773 until she died in August, 1789, is almost exactly as it was when built (1772), at least as far as the south half is concerned. The other part may have had an addition to it, but the whole house is very close to the original, as is shown by old drawings.

Mrs. Washington moved here from Pine Grove, across the river, where she had lived since 1738 with her husband until he died in 174—, and after that with her several children. George left home in about 1749, when he was almost seventeen years of age, going off surveying, and the other children grew up and married or moved to Fredericksburg.

Betty Washington married Fielding Lewis in 1752. And upon her estate Charles Washington, who lived then in a house at Faquier and Prince Charles Streets (now the Daniel House), supervised the building of the house for his mother.

Mrs. Washington made the beautiful garden which distinguished it, oversaw the cooking in the great open

fireplace in the kitchen, still standing, and planted box along the walk to Kenmore.

When Lafayette came here in 1781, after Yorktown, Mrs. Washington received him in the garden, and afterwards served him cakes and wine in the "best room" (the front room). Here also she received Rochambeau, Count d'Estang, Baron d'Viominel, Baron Von Stueben, Viscount d'Nouvalles and the many distinguished officers who came to the great Peace Ball in 1783. Lafayette was then in France.

Mrs. Washington drove from this house to the famous ball and was introduced by Washington. She returned to her home, however, at ten o'clock.

It was in the front room that Washington bade his mother that last farewell which has been touchingly preserved in painting. He was going away again, after a long absence at war, this time to be inaugurated as President, and she told him good-bye here, feeling in her age that she might never see him again. He knelt to receive her blessing. It was his last meeting with the mother to whom he said he owed all that he was.

No other home in America can hold such a deep and tender interest for Americans as this humble home where Washington's mother lived and where he was so often a visitor.

FREDERICKSBURG

Kenmore

Washington Avenue and Lewis Street

Kenmore, where Colonel Fielding Lewis lived with his bride, Betty Washington Lewis, who was George Washington's sister, is one of the best known of all Virginia colonial homes. It was built in 1752 by Colonel Lewis, and was the mansion house of an estate of almost 800 acres, purchased by Colonel Lewis from Richard Wyatt Royston.

The place was called first Gryme's Farm, and later was named Millbank, and it was under the latter name when Colonel Lewis lived there, the name Kenmore having been given it by the Gordon's, Scotch people who acquired it from Colonel Lewis' estate and gave it the Scotch name.

The mansion is pure Georgian in type, stately and well preserved. There are slit pieces in the shutters for pointing rifles through, if needs be, and great massive locks on the doors. The lawn is dotted with trees whose size speak eloquently of their age.

George Washington was a frequent guest at Kenmore, as his diary shows. Upon one occasion Betty was told by a servant that a man was lying upon an upstairs bed, and going bravely up, she found George,

tired from a long ride, asleep with all his clothes on. He had a part in beautifying the place, for all the stucco work which ornaments ceilings and walls was designed by him (stories from Æsop's fables are told in stucco) and executed by artisans found among Hessian prisoners in the camp near Fredericksburg.

Colonel Lewis, with Major Charles Dick, made small arms for the Government at the gunnery, and bankrupted himself, never being fully reimbursed for money he expended for the Government, and Kenmore was sold.

Colonel Lewis is buried, with three children, under the steps of St. George's Church while his wife, Betty, is buried at Culpeper, where she died while on a visit.

Mary Washington (mother of George and Bettie, as well as several other children, all of whom lived in Fredericksburg except Lawrence; and after he was seventeen, George) lived at Kenmore for a time after all her children had left home. But she wanted her own home, and so the house now known as the Mary Washington House, on the Kenmore estate, was built for her, and she planted boxwood along the walk from this house to Kenmore.

Kenmore was about to be destroyed when Fredericksburg women, led by Mrs. V. M. Fleming and her daughter, Mrs. H. H. Smith, began a campaign to raise money to purchase and preserve it. It is now in splendid condition.

FREDERICKSBURG

General Mercer Monument

The statue of General Hugh Mercer, by Edward Valentine, of Richmond, stands in the center of Washington Avenue. Its history goes back to 1812, when Congress appropriated $12,000 for a monument to the Scotch physician who became a brigadier-general under Washington. The appropriation was forgotten and the monument was not erected until 1897, when the money was used.

General Mercer came to Fredericksburg after serving with Washington in the Braddock campaign, and kept an apothecary shop and practiced medicine. When war came he received a colonel's commission and went with the troops raised in Fredericksburg. He was made a brigadier-general, and crossed the Delaware with Washington. At Princeton when, dismounted, he was leading his troops in attack he was set upon and bayoneted by Hessian soldiers and died in a house near the battlefield. His grave is in Philadelphia.

FREDERICKSBURG

Confederate Cemetery

The Confederate Cemetery is at Washington Avenue and Lewis Street, and is the northern part of the old City Cemetery. It was bought, and the graves of the soldier dead marked, with money collected by Fredericksburg people after the War. In it are buried 2,400 soldiers, of whom 1,800 are unknown dead.

Monuments mark the graves of Captain Boswell, of A. P. Hill's staff (killed by the same volley that wounded "Stonewall" Jackson); Major-General Dabney Maury; General S. S. Sibley; Major-General Daniel Ruggles; Colonel Robert S. Chew, of the 30th Virginia; Colonel Carter M. Braxton, of Braxton's Artillery, and others.

Most of the dead in this Cemetery were buried in trenches or pits on the nearby battlefields, and were removed to the Cemetery after the War. The Cemetery is kept up by the Ladies' Memorial Association, organized May 10, 1865, by Mrs. Francis Seymour White. It is claimed this was the first organized Ladies' Memorial Association.

Photo by Va. State Chamber of Commerce

Fredericksburg Home of Mary, Mother of Washington

Photo by Va. State Chamber of Commerce

Kenmore, the Home of Betty Washington Lewis

Photo by Va. State Chamber of Commerce

General Hugh Mercer's Apothecary Shop

FREDERICKSBURG

Mary Washington Monument

Washington Avenue

A shaft forty feet high upon a marble base marks the spot where Mary Washington is buried, near Meditation Rock. The monument is inscribed on one side with the simple words, "Mary, the Mother of Washiington," and on the other, "Erected by her countrywomen."

After her death in August, 1789, George Washington placed a tombstone at her grave. This disappeared, and the grave was unmarked until Silas E. Burrows, a wealthy New Yorker, began the erection of a monument of which the cornerstone was laid May 7, 1833, with President Andrew Jackson as the speaker, and a host of distinguished people present. Burrows, for unknown reasons, never finished the monument, which was desecrated by vandals and marred by shot and shell during the Civil War. On May 10, 1894, the present monument built by the Fredericksburg and the National Mary Washington Memorial Associations, was unveiled by President Grover Cleveland. Senator John W. Daniel, of Virginia, made an address on the occasion. The grounds are maintained by the National Association.

FREDERICKSBURG

Meditation Rock

Just back of the Gordon graveyard, which is near the Mary Washington Monument but has no connection with the Washingtons, the Gordons having placed the cemetery there after buying the Kenmore estate, to which this land then belonged, a great boulder juts out from the earth overlooking a little valley where geologists say the Rappahannock River once flowed. Here Mary Washington used to come to read her Bible, sitting upon the rocks and meditating, sometimes accompanied by her daughter, Bettie Washington Lewis, or one or more of her sons, all of whom, except George, lived in Fredericksburg at the time her home was in the Mary Washington house. Mrs. Washington was so fond of Meditation Rock and the green hilltop near it that she chose a spot for her grave on top of the hill, not far from the rock where she spent her few idle hours.

FREDERICKSBURG

The Doswell House

Princess Anne and Lewis Streets

It is a strange coincidence that Fredericksburg is the only town in which both Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, and Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederate States, made speeches during the Civil War.

Mr. Lincoln spoke from the steps of the present National Bank Building (The Herndon House) in the latter part of April, 1862. Fredericksburg had then just been taken by McDowell, who evacuated it within a few months.

Mr. Davis came to Fredericksburg in 1861, shortly after the capital of the Confederacy had been moved to Richmond, and reviewed the troops at Acqua Creek, then under command of General Daniel Ruggles, of Fredericksburg. Mr. Davis stopped at the Doswell House as a guest of the family, and citizens with a band greeted and serenaded him. He delivered a short address from the porch of the house and received citizens inside.

FREDERICKSBURG

Where Washington Studied

Site of Baptist Church, Princess Anne Street

Where the Baptist Church now stands there was, in the days before the Revolution, a frame house of two stories, with dormer windows, the residence of James Marye, rector of St. George's Episcopal Church and teacher of the parochial school of the church. Here George Washington went to school in his early teens, being a scholar there, according to records, in his fourteenth year. In Mr. Marye's school many distinguished Virginians of this section were taught, among them Monroe and Madison.

The old building stood until about 1820 or 1830, when it was torn down or burned. The Baptist Church purchased the site and built the present church in 1854. Older people remembered the building where Mr. Marye had lived and where Washington and his brothers and sisters, among them Betty, who was to be mistress of Kenmore, went to school.

FREDERICKSBURG

The Baptist Church

Princess Anne and Amelia Streets

When Virginia was dominated by the Church of England, the first Baptists came to Fredericksburg in 1768, and were promptly arrested. They were John Waller, Lewis Chiles, and James Craig, all names still surviving in Spotsylvania County, where they were first arrested, being afterwards brought to Fredericksburg. Here they preached through the jail bars.

The three Baptists were given their freedom and driven from town, and upon the hill on the Plank Road they paused to pray and to pronounce a curse upon the city and its inhabitants, according to tradition.

The first unpretentious Baptist Church was where the depot now stands, and was built in 1804. Later a church was erected on Water Street, where Shiloh Baptist Church (colored) now stands, and the Baptists worshipped here until the present building was erected in 1854.

FREDERICKSBURG

The Charles Dick House

Princess Anne Street, near Lewis

What is said to be the oldest of the pretentious residences in Fredericksburg is the colonial style home, with its long porch and tall, white columns, which was built in 1745 by Major Charles Dick, who afterwards, with Fielding Lewis, manufactured Revolutionary small arms at the gunnery. There have been some changes in the house, and some additions have been made. The present door and the porch were added by one of the owners after Major Dick, but the doorway itself, with its diamond-framed transom, and much of the interior finish belonged to the colonial days.

The first deed for the lot was made to Thomas Turner, of King George, from the trustees of Fredericksburg, and a house probably stood on this spot many years before this one was built, as it was required in the infancy of the town that the holder build a house upon his property within two years after the trustees sold it to him.

FREDERICKSBURG

Rising Sun Tavern

On Main Street, near Hawk, is the old Rising Sun Tavern, of which an English traveler wrote ten years before the Revolution, "I put up at the Tavern of one Weedon who is ever zealous in fanning the flames of sedition."

It is easy to believe that this Irishman, who was to become a general in the army under Washington but who then kept this tavern for the gentry and acted as postmaster when intermittent mails arrived, would so impress a visitor. For his whole life shows that he was a loud and ardent champion of freedom.

And about him gathered others. The Rising Sun Tavern, centrally located, became a meeting place for such men as George Mason, of Gunston, foremost advocate of freedom in his day, Thomas Jefferson, Randolph Mercer, the Lees and Tayloes and Hooes and Washingtons and others. That George Washington found it a great place to pass time is shown by his diary, which frequently mentions it. John Paul Jones spent many hours there.

Indeed, Washington must have found it too interesting, for he wrote in his diary about it: "Evening at

the Rising Sun," he tersely added, "Lost money as usual. The boys at Fredericksburg are too smart for me."

He must have thought them smart, for he selected seven generals from Fredericksburg and vicinity, among them the host at the Rising Sun and some of these "boys."

It was in the Rising Sun that the ideals of early American government were discussed and took vague form, to be later hammered into usable shape by the same men who talked of them here. Momentous issues were discussed about its great fireplaces.

The assembly room, a large hall, was burned many years ago.

A committee, composed of George Mason, of Gunston, Thomas Jefferson, George Wythe, Edmund Pendleton, and Thomas L. Lee, appointed by the convention of 1776 to revise certain laws, met in the Rising Sun Tavern, January 17, 1777, and formulated the bill establishing elementary schools for all children, and colleges. It also drew the bill for religious freedom, as well as other important laws. Thus the public school system and religious freedom were born in the Rising Sun.

Most of the distinguished statesmen of the pre-Revolutionary days, and most of the generals of the Revolutionary army, including the French officers, and

great statesmen for generations afterwards, visited this Tavern which was famous in its day for its hospitality and as a gathering place for eminent men. It is preserved by the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities.

The earliest Declaration of Independence was drawn here, April 29, 1775, when six hundred men enlisted under Colonels Woodford and Mercer to march on Williamsburg, and a formal Declaration of Independence was signed.

The Rising Sun Tavern was built by Charles Washington, a brother of George Washington, and was run by George Weedon, the two being partners in the enterprise.

FREDERICKSBURG

Hugh Mercer's Apothecary Shop

Main and Amelia Streets

In the quaint little building which has recently been restored by the Citizens' Guild of Washington's Boyhood Home, Hugh Mercer, the Scotch apothecary and physician, conducted his business until the Revolution came, when he went forth to become a major-general in Washington's army. That he should follow Washington was not strange, for they fought together in the Braddock campaign. It was Washington who in-

duced Mercer to come to Fredericksburg and in this shop, so says tradition, Washington always kept a desk, before and after the War, so that he could work quietly when in Fredericksburg. The house is exactly as it originally was.

Mercer left this shop to take command, with the rank of colonel, of the Third Virginia Regiment, which was composed of men from Fredericksburg and the counties around it. But when he was killed at Princeton he had risen to the rank of major-general, and was highly esteemed as an officer.

FREDERICKSBURG

The Old Warehouse

Where the bridge from Stafford to Commerce Street touches Fredericksburg, and just to the south of the abutment, stands an old building wrapped in mysterious silence and interest. It is built of massive, hewn stone, with barred windows, and inside are hand-hewn timbers of immense dimensions, fourteen-by-fourteen some of them are, and some even larger. It was built to stand for ages, and for hard wear and tear.

It is believed that it was a tobacco warehouse in the days when tobacco was sent to England and used as

money, and was handled by the colonial government. It is also said to have been a place for confining recently landed slaves before they were sold and sent to plantations and as a prison.

Whatever its history, and no one knows exactly when it was built or by whom or for what, it stands there now, the most substantial structure left from the past, prosaically used as a storage room for fertilizer.

Undoubtedly it is among the oldest buildings in Fredericksburg.

FREDERICKSBURG

Federal Prison

706 Main Street

When citizens and officials of Fredericksburg to the number of nineteen were imprisoned by the Federal general, Pope, the place of incarceration until they were taken to Washington, was in the building now standing at 706 Main Street.

These citizens, together with the War mayor, Montgomery Slaughter, were arrested without any real reason, in August, 1862, and held prisoners for six weeks, during which they suffered many hardships. The full list of them is given in Quinn's History of Fredericksburg.

The prisoners were kept in the house on Main Street for several days until they could be taken to Washington.

The incident created a furor in the South at the time, and brought out great comment in the North, where Pope was blamed for his high-handed procedure.

All of the prisoners were prominent men of the highest standing.

FREDERICKSBURG

The Glassell House

Main Street, near Wolf

One of the houses built in the late colonial style, erected about 1790, is the home where John Glassell, a Scotch merchant, lived with his family. John Glassell owned ships, and his wharf was near the foot of Wolf Street, where remnants of an old wharf, probably rebuilt from time to time, still are seen.

Joanna Glassell, his daughter, was born here, and in 1810 returned to Scotland with her father, where she met and married the Duke of Argyl, and became the grandmother of the Marquis of Lorne, who married Queen Victoria's daughter.

The wharf back of the Glassell home is shown on early maps of Fredericksburg.

Captain William Lewis Herndon lived here when ashore, and here his daughter, Ellen Lewis Herndon, was born in 1854. Miss Herndon had a beautiful voice, which first attracted Chester A. Arthur, who visited her frequently at this home and afterwards married her. The ceremony occurred in New York, before Mr. Arthur was elected President.

FREDERICKSBURG

John Paul Jones' Home

Main and Lafayette Streets

In this old house, wherein may still be seen the hand-made nails and hand-wrought hinges of an early day, William Paul had his business as a tailor, after he came to America from Abigail, Scotland. Here, in 1763 his younger brother, John Paul, came to visit him, being but thirteen years of age, but already an able-bodied seaman. He remained a few years, during which time he delivered clothes or summoned gentlemen to try them on, and met in the shop the elegant colonial Virginians. After about three years here he left again, following the sea, and at seventeen becoming mate of a ship. Jones killed Mungo Maxwell, a sailor, and was tried and acquitted in England, after he had again come to Fredericksburg for a brief visit and to get advice.

He was again at sea, while his brother William continued to live in this house, until 1773, when he came back to Fredericksburg and made his home here. William Paul died in 1774 and John Paul erected a simple stone to his memory, which can be seen in St. George's Churchyard now.

After settling his brother's estate, John Paul lived in this house until the Revolutionary War when, under a new name, for he now called himself John Paul Jones, he received a commission as captain in the Continental navy and went forth to win world-wide acclaim as a sea fighter, conquering superior British ships in great battles. After the War he went to Europe, became admiral of the Russian navy and was about to take command of the French fleets while Napoleon commanded the armies, when he died in Paris in 1792. His body was lost for over a hundred years, when it was finally located and brought back to Annapolis, where he is buried.

Jones was a son of a Scotch gardener, but he was a dandy, and so accomplished that a great French lady said that even Bayard could not lay his helmet at a lady's feet with more knightly grace.

He was declared by the courts to be a resident of Virginia, and himself said that Fredericksburg was the place of his "fond election" as a home.

This house is the only home John Paul Jones had in America.

FREDERICKSBURG

The Sentry Box

Lower Main Street

The home built by General Hugh Mercer was named The Sentry Box, after the Revolution, because during the War it was used as a lookout to watch the river for gunboats, and soldiers were kept on guard there. This was done in the War of 1812, and the Civil War also.

General Mercer's family moved here and lived when he went to war as a colonel, afterwards to become a brigadier-general and meet death at Princeton. His wife and family still lived in the house, and after the War, General George Weedon and his wife moved into it with the Mercer family. This was because Mercer and Weedon married sisters, Catherine and Isabella Gordon.

General Mercer left the house to his son, Hugh Mercer, who lived there for many years.

The house has not been greatly changed. It sits back half a hundred yards from the street, white, with a large, green lawn about it and a high, pillared porch.

Photo by Va. State Chamber of Commerce

The Rising Sun Tavern, Meeting Place for Advocates of Freedom

FREDERICKSBURG

Rocky Hill Lane

East side of Main Street, near Wharf

Just this side of the steamboat wharf, on Main Street, a walled and rock-paved street leads to the river. This old, quaint lane has a history. Washington and his brothers and sister and mother and father rode up it many times after ferrying across from their home. Lafayette and part of his army, Washington and his staff, hundreds of great men travelling northward or southward, or up and down the Northern Neck, passed through this lane. It was used in the Civil War by thousands of troops who crossed on the pontoon near it. Probably no short street in the nation has known more great men and great events.

Besides its historic interest, the old lane is a picturesque example of how thorough was the work of building as done in colonial days, and it has an unusual beauty, reminiscent of some old European village.

FREDERICKSBURG

Hazel Hill

Hazel Hill is a rambling kind of house at the foot of Main Street, just opposite the George Washington farm. From it one looks at the buildings on the Washington farm. It was built by General John B. Minor, who appears to have been an officer in the Revolution, though very young then (born 1761—died 1816) and a general in the War of 1812. The house long ago passed out of the hands of the Minor family.

Much of the history of the house seems to have been lost, with many interesting historical items which have utterly disappeared from Fredericksburg, mainly because so many records were destroyed during the Civil War.

However, it is a beautiful estate, where the General lived between wars and where he raised his family.

The house was damaged by shell fire directed at it during the Civil War, but has been repaired.

FREDERICKSBURG

Gunnery Spring

In the field near this Spring, which is in the lower part of the city and is reached by going south on Princess Anne Street and turning right at the third street past the railroad tracks, Colonel Fielding Lewis and Major Charles Dick, commissioners, made small arms for the Revolutionary forces, for which, incidentally, they were never fully paid. The Gunnery turned out one hundred stands of arms a month. Major Dick wrote, "The gentlemen of this town, and even the ladies, have very spiritedly attended at the Gunnery and assisted to make up already about twenty thousand cartridge bullets." Colonel Lewis and Major Dick bankrupted themselves making arms.

After the Revolution the Gunnery was turned into an academy for youths. No traces of the buildings remain.

It is said, "He who has tasted the water of Gunnery Spring must come back to Fredericksburg."

FREDERICKSBURG

Commodore Maury's Home

Charlotte Street, near Princess Anne

The home of Matthew Fontaine Maury, "Pathfinder of the Seas," author of "Maury's Physical Geography," and of works which charted the tides and winds and the lanes of the sea, and revolutionized the science of navigation, founder of the Naval Observatory and the instigator of the Weather Bureau, was in Fredericksburg. He lived in this house from 1836 until 1842. He married Anne Herndon, aunt of Mrs. Chester A. Arthur.

Maury was born near Wellford's Furnace, in Spotsylvania County.

Cyrus Field said of the laying of the Atlantic cable, "Maury furnished the brains, England furnished the money, and I did the work." Maury received more decorations from foreign governments than has any other American.

He joined the Confederate navy in 1861, invented the submarine torpedo, and after the War came back to this city and lived for a time on lower Main Street. He is buried in Hollywood Cemetery, Richmond.

FREDERICKSBURG

The Carmichael House

Hanover Street, near Princess Anne

One of the most perfect types of the earliest American architectural style, and particularly of a style characteristic of Virginia, is the Carmichael House, built in 1780 by Charles Yates who, soon after its completion sold it to Dr. James Carmichael, a Scotch physician who had just come over. From that time until a few years ago, four Carmichaels in succession have been physicians with their residence and office in the old house. The Carmichael home has also been widely known in Virginia because it was always a center of social activity and because of its hospitality.

The rooms are furnished in old mahogany, and in them are hung interesting portraits dating back for generations. The garden is filled with old-fashioned flowers, and there is an old-time summerhouse in it, typical of earlier days.

The porch and doorway are particularly interesting to lovers of old architecture.

FREDERICKSBURG

The Old Hurkamp House

Hanover Street, near Prince Edward

This old house, which was built in the early years of the nineteenth century, is a good specimen of the architecture of its day, and was one of the handsomest homes in the town at that time. It is on one of the oldest and most beautiful of all our streets.

During the Battle of Fredericksburg it was one of the houses used for first-aid stations, and many wounded were treated within it. Clara Barton nursed the wounded in this house. Walt Whitman also nursed here, and at Chatham.

In 1864, when Grant had advanced to Spotsylvania and held Fredericksburg, this house was again used for the wounded. After General John Sedgwick was killed at Spotsylvania his body was buried near the Alsop house. But later it was removed to and when en route to the North, lay in state in the front room of this house, where many passed the bier.

FREDERICKSBURG

Federal Hill

On east Hanover Street, as one goes out of the city, is Federal Hill, the one-time home of the distinguished attorney, Thomas Reade Rootes. It was built, however, by Judge Brooke, and was called Federal Hill because of his strong adherence in early days to that party. Its white enameled wainscotting, paneling and interior decorations; its colonial doorways, dormer windows, and spacious grounds where old-time flowers, radiant and redolent, bloom within boxwood-bordered lawns, bear witness to its careful preservation and its age.

Before the rear window Senator Cobb, of Georgia, was married to the daughter of Thomas Reade Rootes, previous to the Civil War. To them was born a son, named Thomas Reade Rootes Cobb who, at the head of his men in the Sunken Road, met his death in sight of the window before which his mother and father were married.

Curiously enough, the Willis House, on the hill at the foot of which the Georgia general died, was the home of his grandfather.

FREDERICKSBURG

Brompton

The old Marye house, known as Brompton, standing where long ago one of the homes of the Willis's, of Willis Hill stood, is today a handsome, imposing brick structure with white-columned porch that overlooks the city of Fredericksburg and the plain nearer the Heights, across which thousands of Federal soldiers charged to their death during the Civil War. The house was built by Mr. Laurence Marye, in 1838. The Maryes were among the great men of Virginia in the era before and during the Civil War.

But the old home gains its greatest fame from the fact that against the heights in which it sits, Burnside sent eight Federal divisions in attacks, his men being slaughtered by the fire from the guns on the hills about the house and the musketry in the Sunken Road just below it. On the house and outbuildings are hundreds of scars of battle. Trenches are still to be seen along the edge of the beautiful lawn, and are reached by driving in the Hanover Street entrance, the trenches being on the left, near the gate.

FREDERICKSBURG

Willis Hill Graveyard

On the heights next to the National Cemetery is the old Willis burying ground, the site of the Willis home, to which in earlier days the whole of Marye's Heights and the land now occupied by the National Cemetery belonged.

Colonel William Byrd, owner of vast tracts of land where Richmond now stands, came to visit Colonel Henry Willis, whom he describes as "The Top Man of the Town." Colonel Willis then lived on Willis Hill, where he had moved in 1716. The last of his three wives was Mildred Washington Gregory, George Washington's aunt and godmother. It is believed she is buried here. Willis' great-granddaughter lived here, too, and married Achille Murat, son of Caroline Bonaparte and Joachim Murat, King of Naples.

The graveyard is reached through the north gate of the National Cemetery.

Lewis Willis, son of Mildred Washington Gregory Willis and Henry Willis, and George Washington's first cousin, playmate and confidant, is buried here.

FREDERICKSBURG

Cobb Monument

Sunken Road

The spot where General T. R. R. Cobb, of Georgia fell, is marked by a granite stone. General Cobb was killed in the early afternoon of December 13, 1863, while in command of the troops in the Sunken Road, one brigade of which was his own.

General Cobb was killed by a sharpshooter who was concealed in the buildings to his right, that is, probably, on Hanover Street.

Cobb was taken from the field after Martha Stevens had given first-aid in the yard of her home, tying up his wound with pieces of her petticoat, and carried to a house near where Longstreet's headquarters were, on the Richmond-Washington Highway. Here, a few hours later, he died. He is buried in his native State, Georgia.

General Cobb was killed within sight of the window at Federal Hill before which his father and mother stood when they were married.

FREDERICKSBURG

Stevens House Marker

Sunken Road

During the Battle of Fredericksburg, Martha Stevens, then a young woman, did not leave her little house on the edge of the Sunken Road, but all day long ministered as best she could to the wounded, while bullets and cannon balls fell about her.

When General T. R. R. Cobb, of Georgia, was wounded by a sharpshooter, Mrs. Stevens used a part of her petticoat to bind up his wounds, after which he was taken to the rear.

Mrs. Stevens saved the lives of dozens of soldiers that day by giving them first-aid, there being no other person there to help them. The United Daughters of the Confederacy have placed a marker where her home stood before it burned.

Mrs. Stevens lived to an old age, and was well known and esteemed by Fredericksburg people.

FREDERICKSBURG

National Cemetery

Gathered from all the adjacent battlefields after the Civil War, and when most of the dead had been sent to their home States after their bodies had been claimed by relatives, 15,294 soldiers sleep in the beautiful spot on Marye's Heights, set aside for a National Cemetery July 15, 1865. A few of those died after the War, or are Spanish-American or World War veterans. But most of them are men who were killed in the Civil War at Fredericksburg, or in the battles near it, and of these 12,294 are unknown dead, found in the woods or dug up from hastily-made pits upon the battlefields.

A beautiful monument to General Humphreys, whose division made a gallant attack on Marye's Heights; one to the Fifth Corps, commanded by General Daniel Butterfield, and other monuments to units which fought here, are erected in the Cemetery.

Services are held here for the soldier dead each Decoration Day, the people of the town carrying out the program.

FREDERICKSBURG

Snowden

There is a great deal of charm about Snowden, and it is regarded as one of the best examples of late colonial architecture, well preserved and comfortable as well as beautiful. It has the great rooms and high ceilings of the period, and a white-columned porch, overlooking the winding drive which leads up the hill to it.

Snowden was built in 1807 by Venmans Smith, and later was the home of the Stansburys, the first of whom was that Stansbury or Stansberg who was Secretary of State of Maryland. Its magnificent shade trees and its flower garden are among the most beautiful in this part of Virginia.

Before Fredericksburg was bombarded for twelve hours, during the Civil War, the city officials of Fredericksburg, including the mayor, received notice of the coming bombardment from Burnside and, after General Lee, present at the house, had read the message, sent their reply.

FREDERICKSBURG

Fall Hill

On the River Road, one mile north

Built in 1738, the Fall Hill house and estate was for years the home of the Thorntons, and still remains in the posession of those of Thornton lineage. It is of the Georgian type of architecture, situated upon a high hill where it looks down the valley of the Rappahannock for miles, and overlooks the town of Fredericksburg. Under one of the old cedars, hollowed out of a flinty boulder, is Francis Thornton's punch bowl, with "1720" and "F. T." carved on the circle of the rim.

Fall Hill commands the town of Fredericksburg, and was the strong left of Lee's line during the Battle of Fredericksburg and the winter following. Batteries were posted upon the hill here and played an important part in the second battle when by withdrawing and getting on the Plank Road, they did immensely important work in holding back the Federal advance.

Francis Thornton, I, was the first owner. Roger Gregory, who married Mildred Washington (George's aunt and godmother), lived here. Charles Washington's daughter is buried in the family cemetery.

FREDERICKSBURG—STAFFORD

The Washington Home Farm

George Washington was born at Wakefield in Westmoreland County, on February 22, 1732. A few years afterwards the family moved to a point on the Potomac near the present site of Mount Vernon, and on October 25, 1738, Augustine Washington, father of George Washington, bought at public auction "100 acres lying about two miles below the falls of the Rappahannock, close on the riverside with a handsome dwelling and a ferry belonging to it, being the place where Mr. Strother lived." Augustine Washington also bought an adjoining tract of 165 acres.

Shortly afterwards the Washington family was resident on the farm, and from that time until 1772, perhaps later, it was the family home. Washington's father died on the farm, willing it to George, and the latter's sister Mildred, is believed to have been born there, and certainly died there. George Washington permanently left the place in 1752 when he acquired Mount Vernon. His brothers, Charles, John Augustine, and Samuel, and his sister Mildred lived on the farm for varying periods, and his mother continued to make it her home until she moved to Fredericksburg

between 1772 and 1775. Although resident in Fredericksburg she farmed the place until just before her death in 1789.

It was on this farm, according to Parson Mason L. Weems, who, as the original biographer of Washington, first printed the stories that young Washington hacked his father's now famous cherry trees, broke the neck of his mother's favorite colt, and tossed the Spanish dollar across the Rappahannock. While swimming in the Rappahannock once, presumably near the farm, his clothing was stolen by two colored women, who were given "fifteen lashes each" by order of the county court.

The farm is now owned by the George Washington Foundation, which seeks to restore it to a typical colonial farm of the Washington boyhood period, and dedicate it as a shrine to the youth of America.

The farm is directly opposite the lower end of Fredericksburg, and is reached by way of the Commerce Street bridge.

Photo by Va. State Chamber of Commerce

The Old Marye House, Known as Brompton

Photo by Va. State Chamber of Commerce

Stratford, Where Robert E. Lee was Born

Photo by Va. State Chamber of Commerce

Law Office of President James Monroe

STAFFORD COUNTY

Chatham

Chatham is reached by crossing the Commerce Street bridge, and turning short to the left, when within an eighth-of-a-mile, the English gateway looms before one.

It is one of those old Virginia mansions which are dear to the hearts of all who know their history. Under the great oak on the center of the path to the front door of Chatham, Robert E. Lee courted Mary Custis, who became his wife. At Chatham George Washington and his bride, Martha Dandridge Custis, spent some days of their honeymoon while en route from the bride's home, The White House on the Pamunkey river, to Washington's home at Mt. Vernon.

Chatham was built in 1728 by William Fitzhugh, after a design by Sir Christopher Wren, and was named after Fitzhugh's close friend, William Pitt, Earl of Chatham. There was a race course behind it, frequented by all the great men of Northern Virginia in pre-Revolutionary days.

Its boxwood bordered walks and great, wide lawns are among the most beautiful in Virginia. Restored, as it has been, it is a replica of the English home which

its early design followed. It is now the handsomest home in this section of Virginia.

Although more than 200 years old, the building is in a perfect state of preservation.

During the Civil War, Chatham was headquarters, for a time, for General Sumner; was visited by all the officers, and was also used as a base hospital. Walt Whitman was among those who nursed the wounded here.

STAFFORD COUNTY

Falmouth

Falmouth is just across the Rappahannock River from Fredericksburg, lying snugly in the cleft in the hills through which a small creek winds its way, and is at the head of tidewater. It was always a situation of consequence, for even in the Indian days it was a place for fording the river, and was the point to which Indians from the Piedmont region sent their bearers to trade for fish, which the Rappahannock Indians caught here in traps and ate, or sold, or smoked for the winter.

Falmouth was built on fifty-two acres of land bought from Major William Todd, in 1728, but there was a

settlement here before this, probably as far back as there was a settlement at Fredericksburg, which was sometime in the 1620's. But in 1728 it was regularly laid out and seven trustees appointed to govern it: Robert Carter, president, Nicholas Smith, John Fitzhugh, Charles Carter, Henry Fitzhugh, John Warner, surveyor, and William Thornton.

It was once the market for much produce from the northeastward, especially the country bordering the Warrenton road, and the country about Warrenton. Wheat was sent here in covered wagons and at Falmouth wharf was loaded on barges—the river was about five feet higher than now—and the barges were poled to the site of the present steamboat wharf at the lower end of the town, where the grain was transferred to ships bound for Great Britain. In old orders to the skippers of these ships they are warned where to look out for pirates.

One of the largest merchants in Falmouth, Brazil Gordon, is said to have been the first millionaire in the United States. He is buried in the Masonic Cemetery.

George Washington, in a sketch of his family history, says that he went to school in Falmouth. His tutor was a "Master Hobby." Washington, with an army, crossed the river at Falmouth on "a wooden bridge" in 1781, when en route to Yorktown. Lafayette and his troops also passed through here. "Mad Anthony" Wayne met Lafayette here.

In the Civil War it was the center of activity of Burnside's army.

Hon. Alexander H. Seddon, Secretary of War of the Confederacy was a citizen of Falmouth.

Unfortunately the history of most of the old buildings at Falmouth, which look as if they had hidden secrets, has not been preserved.

Moncure D. Conway was a native of Falmouth.

The old cemetery is interesting, containing some tombstones with very old dates.

STAFFORD COUNTY

Belmont

Belmont, situated upon the hills northward from Falmouth, is one of the old and beautiful homes near Fredericksburg. It was, some time in the early part of the eighteenth century, the home of Susanah Stuart Fitzhugh Knox, the daughter of Thomas Fitzhugh, of Boscobel. She married William Knox, of Windsor Lodge, Culpeper County. Her daughter, Anne Campbell Knox, married Bazil Gordon, of Falmouth, who is said to have been the first millionaire in America.

Susanah Fitzhugh Knox died at Belmont in 1823, and is buried in Falmouth.

Belmont has been little changed by time, and its tenants have reverenced it, and so it has not been greatly altered, although it has had some additions, and has been made modern inside. The grounds and garden are very beautiful.

Belmont is now the home of Mr. and Mrs. Gari Melchers.

STAFFORD COUNTY

Carlton Heights

One of the old homes near Falmouth which has an attraction for those who like the things that link the past with the present is the O'Bannon home, Carlton Heights, which is upon the hill just south of Falmouth. It is of the early nineteenth century, and has many of the characteristics of early Virginia architecture.

Abraham Lincoln was at Carlton Heights when he came here to review the troops of the Federal army. It was General Hayes' headquarters.

Scott's Hill

The house upon Scott's Hill is now the home of Mrs. Michael Wallace. The hill, during the Civil War, was lined with big guns which bombarded Fredericks-

burg, and from it was sent up, under direction of Count Zeppelin, the first balloons ever used in war. Messages telegraphed back from there are in the official records of the war.

STAFFORD COUNTY

Phillips House

Crowning the Stafford Heights and sitting well back on the ridge is a white house, plainly to be seen from Fredericksburg. This is the home known as the Phillips House, built in the early years of the nineteenth century.

Its history is closely connected with the Civil War. It was Burnside's headquarters before, during, and after the Battle of Fredericksburg. Hooker occupied it when he took command of the army.

It was also headquarters where momentous discussions took place in the great campaign. Mr. Lincoln was here often, as was every distinguished military official of the time.

The signal corps headquarters were here. In the official records of the Civil War, the signal men claimed that from this house "The magnetic telegraph was used for the first time in warfare."

RICHMOND-WASHINGTON HIGHWAY

Old Catholic Cemetery

About thirty-eight miles from Washington and thirty-one from Fredericksburg, near Garrisonville, is an old Catholic Cemetery, believed to be a part of a Catholic church of which the foundation may still be seen, which was the first Catholic church built in Virginia. In it is buried the daughter of Lord Baltimore, who married William Sewell, Secretary of State for Maryland.

On one tomb is inscribed "....., he married Anne Dangerfield. Died 1633." That is a very early date, and though plain on the stone, appears incorrect. The tomb of Georgia Maria, daughter of George Brent, 1687, is possibly the oldest standing. But many have fallen down.

Brass nameplates on the above, and other tombs, were cut away by soldiers during the War.

The Brents, who settled first in the section near this church were Maryland Catholics. The Catholic Church has purchased the Cemetery and some land about it, and will make it a place of interest for Catholics.

SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY

Spotsylvania Courthouse

The county seat of Spotsylvania was first at Germanna. Spotsylvania was carved from Essex in 1722. Orange was cut from Spotsylvania. Later the courthouse was moved to what is called the Old Courthouse, and still later to the present Spotsylvania Courthouse.

Many of the Knights of the Golden Horseshoe rode through here after leaving Fredericksburg, en route to Germanna, where they stopped at Governor Alexander Spotswood's house for a few days before starting on their great adventure to the Blue Ridge Mountains and the Shenandoah Valley. Lafayette once marched through here, as did "Mad Anthony" Wayne, both of them at that time en route southward to head off Tarleton's raiders, and later to go to Yorktown for the siege of that place and Cornwallis's surrender.

The hotel—Spotswood Inn—is probably the oldest building here. It is of record that it was "an ordinary" in 1799. Later, before the Civil War, it was "a tavern," and for many years now it has been "an inn," changing its name with the times. It is one of the few buildings of such an age still used for the same purpose it

served in so early a day as 1799. Shell holes and bullet marks of the Civil War can be seen on it. It was headquarters for General Jubal A. Early, who commanded the Confederate right and, during the battle, General Robert E. Lee came at times to catch a glimpse of the foe along the Fredericksburg road and in the woods, from an upstairs window of the hotel.

Lee and Grant met here in a great battle which lasted eleven days, although on some days the fighting was not general. On May 8th the battle began. It ended May 19th.

Grant sent from here the telegram that has been quoted all over the world, in which he said: "I intend to fight it out on this line if it takes all summer."

The old Courthouse was badly battered during the War, and was replaced shortly afterwards by the present one. The jail was built about 1820. The brick house opposite the Courthouse, now the Powell residence, was built about the same time, and the two churches on the Richmond road, also. All were built with bricks from a brickyard on the place. No bricks were ever imported from England to this country for building purposes.

In the Courthouse are records of Washington's commission as a major in the militia, and of other organizations of foot and cavalry, among them "The Fredericksburg company of Foot, composed of Gentlemen Inhabitants in the Town."

Among interesting records at Spotsylvania is one saying that "George Washington appeared with a commission from Honorable Robert Dinwiddie, as Major and Adjutant in the Militia," and as commander for almost all the Eastern Virginia counties. Washington was then, February 30, 1753 (there was a February 30th then, before the calendar was changed), just over twenty-one.

Another record, in 1751, recites that Mary McDaniel and Anne Carroll were before the court "Charged with Robbing Mr. George Washington's Cloathes, when he was Washing in the river sometime last Summer," for which Anne Carroll was ordered "to be taken out by the Sheriff and given fifteen lashes on her bare back and then discharged."

Records here also show that bounties were given for wolf hides as late as 1850, and that in the early 1800's, hundreds of wolves were killed each year in this part of Virginia.

SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY

Spotswood Inn

Records show that the building now called Spotswood Inn was an "ordinary" in 1799, and as it is now an "inn" it spans a period (in 1929) of one hundred and thirty years. It is one of the oldest ordinaries or taverns or inns in America.

It was named for Governor Spotswood, "The Best Governor Virginia ever had."

During the Battle of Spotsylvania, the Confederate lines crossed the road and fields about three hundred yards in front of the Inn. The Northern batteries, three-fourths of a mile further on, had a clear shot at the Inn. Many shells struck it, and scars remain.

In the fields to the right and left and in front, Early's corps, and A. P Hill's division of Ewell's corps, met fierce attacks launched by Burnside. Almost three thousand men were killed or wounded within sight of the courthouse and hotel.

Originally the place had three thousand acres of land attached to it.

SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY

Germanna

Near where the Germanna bridge crosses the Rappahannock River on the way to Culpeper, via Germanna road (twenty miles), Governor Alexander Spotswood built the village of Germanna and settled it with some German artisans, who made here the first iron castings in America. Governor Spotswood obtained iron from his mines and furnaces in "The Wilderness" and cast pots, kettles, andirons, and like articles of household ware for the colonists. These were shipped to the Rappahannock, and thence to Norfolk and Williamsburg, and all over the colonies.

Germanna was the county seat in 1722. But before that the Knights of the Golden Horseshoe rode to the Blue Ridge Mountains, stopping at Germanna.

Governor Spotswood had a mansion in which he and his family lived for part of the year, close to the Germanna road, where a white cottage still stands, in which resided, until his recent demise, Alexander Spotswood, a descendant of the governor.

SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY

Stonewall Jackson Monument

Eleven miles out on the Plank Road (one and a half miles or so past Chancellorsville) there is a monument on the right marking the spot where Stonewall Jackson fell, just when he had won the greatest victory of his career.

Jackson had marched around Hooker's flank (May 2, 1863), driven the Federals before him, and was reforming his lines for another charge (at 8:30 p. m.), when his own men, mistaking his party for Northern cavalry, fired on them and killed a number and wounded the others. Jackson was mortally wounded, was taken to Guineas, and died eight days later, May 10, 1863. His arm was amputated in the field hospital near the Lacy House at the Wilderness, on the right of the road.

At the time he was wounded Jackson had a great victory in his hands, and had he lived would have practically annihilated Hooker's army. He marched that day with 26,000 men sixteen miles and then fought for three hours, advancing through heavy woods.

SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY

Lee and Jackson's Last Bivouac

Turning to the south at Chancellorsville, and following the road for about a mile, one comes to a place where a woods road leads off to the right. In the forks of these roads Lee and Jackson spent the night, with their staffs, May 1, 1863, when the fortunes of the Confederate army appeared to be at low tide and a terrible defeat faced them.

A granite monument marks the last bivouac of Lee and Jackson.

Sitting on two cracker boxes before a scant fire, the two generals, calling upon Captain Maury Taylor and others for aid, planned the great move by which Jackson next day flanked Hooker's army, drove it before him late in the afternoon, and won a great victory when defeat seemed almost certain.

It was at this point that the two great Southern heroes saw each other for the last time. "Uncle Jack" Hayden guided Jackson's army on the march.

The Tidewater Trail

This road leads south from Fredericksburg, by way of Princess Anne Street.

Follow Princess Anne to the third street below the railroad viaduct, then turn to the right for one block, and then turn to the left (southward) into the road, which leads down the Rappahannock, past many little towns, and then onward to the section about Newport News and Norfolk.

THE TIDEWATER TRAIL

Mannsfield Hall

Three miles below Fredericksburg, to the east of the Tidewater Trail and occupying a portion of the ground in which the battle of Hamilton's Crossing was fought, is the Mannsfield Hall Country Club, an interesting building of the colonial type of brick with main portion and wings and a pillared portico.

The main portion of the present house was built in 1805 by Thomas Pratt, on land once the part of Smithfield, believed to have been named for Major Lawrence Smith, who was, in 1674, ordered by "ye Grande Assemblie at Jaems Cittie" to command a fort to be built at or near the Falls of the Rappahannock.

The Mansfield Hall home was at first called Smithfield after the original place, which was below the site of the present house, and later was changed to Mannsfield, after the place of that name which was slightly above.

Dr. Robert Brooke, once governor of Virginia; Dr. Lawrence Brooke, who was surgeon on John Paul Jones' flagship "Bonne Homme" Richard, and Judge Francis T. Brooke, later of St. Julien, were born at Smithfield. In his diaries George Washington records visits to Smithfield.

The Mannsfield Hall Country Club is one of the finest in this section of Virginia, and has a splendid nine-hole golf course, with nine additional holes in prospect. Cannon balls are used as tee markers.

THE TIDEWATER TRAIL

Belvedere

Just to the east of the Tidewater Trail, twelve miles south of Fredericksburg, is Belvedere, settled in 1760 by Colonel William Dangerfield. The house, a brick mansion of the colonial type, with main portion, wings and columned porch, was built shortly afterwards, as the interesting old diary of John Harrower, a New

Photo by Va. State Chamber of Commerce

Mannsfield Hall, now a Country Club

Photo by Va. State Chamber of Commerce

The Sentry Box, Home of General Hugh Mercer

England schoolmaster who was private tutor in the Dangerfield family, tells of a dinner party at Belvedere in 1774, at which "General Washington's wife and her son, John Parke Custis and his wife, the Misses Washington, Dandridge, and others were guests."

Harrower's diaries also describe a dance at Port Royal, not far from Belvedere, from which he records that he saw couples leaving "in close hugge."

THE TIDEWATER TRAIL

Moss Neck

After passing Belvedere the traveller on the Tidewater Trail comes to Moss Neck, a long, low brick building with main portion and wings, built somewhat on the order of Chatham, though not so largely proportioned. It is a mile south of the road and cannot be seen from the highway.

The date of Moss Neck is not certain, but its style follows the colonial idea. It was built by the Corbins, of Caroline County, and was for many years the family home.

During 1862-1863 General Jackson wintered there, but refused to occupy quarters in the main house for fear of disturbing the family, and occupied a lodge near by.

With the officers attached to Jackson's headquarters who wintered there, was John Esten Cooke, author of *Surrey of the Eagle's Nest.*

It was here that Jackson tore the gold braid from his handsome uniform hat and gave it to the little Corbin girl.

THE TIDEWATER TRAIL

Kinloch

One of the homes which tell of the hospitality of the Old South in no uncertain tones is Kinloch, on the Tidewater Trail.

It was built in 1845 by Richard Baylor, a wealthy landowner, who was a prominent man in the community. So that his guests might be provided for, Mr. Baylor built Kinloch with twenty-one rooms, in eighteen of which are fireplaces. There are four chimneys, one at each corner of the house, and four great halls. Marble pillars support the front portico.

Kinloch was for years closed, and hardly ever used, but some years ago it was sold to Mr. Langbourne M. Williams, of Richmond, who has restored the place and made it comfortable to live in, by making some improvements. The atmosphere of the place has not been changed, and its old-time beauty still mellows it.

THE TIDEWATER TRAIL

Blandfield

On the Tidewater Trail is Blandfield, another home which dates back far into the past, for while the present house was built in 1760, the history of the place is much older.

Captain William Beverly and his wife, Elizabeth, were the first to live here, but in a house nearer the river. This Beverly was clerk of the court of Essex County, 1710-1740.

Blandfield, the present house, was built in 1760 by Robert Beverly, son of Captain William Beverly, and since that time it has never passed out of the ownership of the family, it being now owned by Mr. Robert Beverly, who lives in the beautiful old place with his family.

The home was damaged during the Civil War by fire from Federal gunboats, and also by marauders who camped in it and did it much injury. But since the War it has been well cared for, and retains an atmosphere of the past in its interior as well as its exterior aspect.

THE TIDEWATER TRAIL

Port Royal

Port Royal on the Rappahannock, is an old village which tradition says once came within one vote of being made the capital of the United States. It was created in 1744 by the House of Burgesses. A number of interesting old buildings are standing here.

When John Wilkes Booth and Herold, his accomplice in the assassination of Lincoln, crossed the river they landed here and hurried up the hill to the Garrett barn. This is about a mile from Port Royal. Booth was directed to the barn by Captain Jett and Lieutenants Ruggles and Bainbridge, of the Confederate army. Jett was forced, at the bayonet's point, to tell where Booth had hidden. He afterwards lost his mind from brooding over this forced betrayal.

Baker's scouts surrounded the barn, set it afire, and killed Booth and captured Herold. Or, most probably, Booth killed himself.

THE TIDEWATER TRAIL

Gaymont

South of the Tidewater Trail, two miles from Port Royal, is Gaymont, built about 1725 by Mann Page, and first known as Rosehill. The wings were added about 1798, and the octagon room, at the end of the wide hallway, not until later than 1825.

On the walls in the hallway and in the parlor the old scenic paper, considerably more than a hundred years of age, is still to be seen. It has been carefully preserved by members of the family.

Gaymont was once owned by Johns Hopkins, and still is in possession of members of the family.

It is located on a high hill, overlooking a broad sweep of the Rappahannock and the valley with the little town of Port Royal nestling in the trees along the bank of the river, plainly in sight.

Gaymont is now owned by the Robb family, the members of which take pride in preserving the atmosphere of the place, and the gardens to the rear of the home are one of its assets.

THE TIDEWATER TRAIL

Brooke's Bank

In Essex County, on the road to Tappahannock, is Brooke's Bank, bearing upon it the scars of cannon fired from gunboats during the Civil War. It was built in 1731, and is among the very oldest of all the old homes still standing in this section. The mansion is said to have been built by Mrs. Sarah Taliaferro Brooke, upon land granted to her by Queen Anne, in recognition of the services of her husband, John Brooke, who lost his life at sea.

Among the Brooke family, many of whom lived at this old place, or who often visited it, were Dr. Lawrence Brooke, Robert Brooke (governor of Virginia), Roger Brooke Tancy, the celebrated chief justice, and Francis T. Brooke, the eminent jurist.

This old home has been for many years in the hands of tenants, and has suffered, but recently it has been sold and is being well cared for.

THE TIDEWATER TRAIL

Elmwood

In Essex County, thirty miles below Fredericksburg, just to the south of the Tidewater Trail is Elmwood, a stately old colonial house of brick with barred and shuttered windows, that stands like a silent sentinel of the past.

Built by Muscoe Garrett, just prior to the Revolutionary War, Elmwood once was the scene of the elegance and grace characteristic of the days that are gone. Its great rooms and halls rang to the music and laughter of youth; stately women danced with gallant men.

Today, Elmwood is a "ghost house," hushed and quiet. For more than thirty years it has been untenanted, but its massive mahogany furniture has been untouched, its portraits hang in their accustomed places, its library of many volumes is intact, and even its silver occupies drawers of great sideboards. No visitors are permitted across its portals, and a vigilant caretaker lives in an immediately nearby outhouse to see that it is undisturbed.

Old darkies in the neighborhood whisper strange stories of a young and beautiful girl, one of those who

danced in the great halls, and of a lover who was not "received" at Elmwood. The lover went away and never came back. The young girl lived to be an old, old woman, but she never forgot the lover of her youth. If he might not come there, she said, neither would others wish to come.

There were strange happenings after she died, the darkies whisper, and soon the members of the family shut tight the blinds, locked the massive doors and left.

The stories may be merely stories, but about stately Elmwood is the bleakness of desertion.

Surrey of the Eagle's Nest, famous Civil War story by John Esten Cooke, was woven about Elmwood, and it is perhaps not unlikely that he visited the home and got his inspiration while wintering during the Civil War at Moss Neck, in Caroline County, a dozen miles up the Trail from Elmwood.

THE TIDEWATER TRAIL

Tappahannock

About thirty miles below Fredericksburg, lying on the Rappahannock River, is Tappahannock, known before 1680 as New Plymouth, and later called Hobbie's Hole. Records which are still preserved there go back to 1665.

Tappahannock, like other towns on the river, was once a port of some importance.

In years it is older than Richmond, Williamsburg, and many other towns, for Tappahannock can prove that it was settled in 1656, by its own records.

The brick courthouse, which stands in the center of the village, is of the far past, and contains some interesting old portraits. On the grounds and near by is the old Debtors' Prison, now used as a law office.

One of the first customhouses in the United States was established at this place. It is named from the Indian tribe which was sometimes called Rappahannock and sometimes Tappahannock. Hannock, or Hanna, means river in the tribal language.

The King's Highway

This famous old road is reached by crossing the bridge which leads out of Fredericksburg and over the river at Commerce Street, and turning sharply to the right at the Stafford end. The road goes past King George Courthouse, and then on its main trunk or by branches, reaches all the courthouses and towns of the Northern Neck, ending at the shore where the Rappahannock and Potomac Rivers mingle with Chesapeake Bay.

THE KING'S HIGHWAY

Sherwood Forest

About five miles from Fredericksburg, and half a mile from the King's Highway, upon the crest of a hill stands the Sherwood Forest house. The tract was once the property of Mary Washington, being left to her by her father, Colonel Joseph Ball, of Epping Forest. The estate passed from Mary Washington to her son, John Augustine Washington, a brother of George Washington, by deed dated May 21, 1778. John Washington left it to his son, Bushrow Washington. Lands were purchased by some owners to enlarge the estate, so that it consisted of much more than the original four hundred acres, while still later it was cut to a smaller tract.

While Sherwood Forest was never the home of Mrs. Washington, John Washington did make his home on the farm, which then included the farm now known as Travellers' Rest, and was called by that name. Washington mentions the place many times in his diary.

THE KING'S HIGHWAY

Dyssington

Nothing now remains of the beautiful home which Alexander Seymour Hooe built at Dyssington when, as a youth, it was given to him by his father. It was the real home of the great Dyssington estate, always filled with guests, and a place where army and naval men came to visit at all times. Freidland was the Hooes' summer home, on the estate.

Alexander Seymour Hooe married Elizabeth Barnes Mason, daughter of George Mason, of Lexington, and granddaughter of George Mason, of Gunston, who was his cousin—Mason of Lexington married Miss Hooe, of Barnsfield. His sons were all lost in the Mexican War. After his death the property remained with his daughters until they all died, when it passed to his grandchildren. Later it was sold out of the family.

The place was associated with the history of Virginia, and was one of the famous old homes of the Northern Neck long before the Civil War.

THE KING'S HIGHWAY

Freidland

On the right of the King's Highway, and two miles or so from it, is the old Freidland home. This belonged with the Dyssington home, and was part of the estate, and was built and used as a summer home. Those who lived on the river then used to move back to the hills in the heat of summer.

At Freidland, which was built in 1720, by Alexander Seymour Hooe, lived in their boyhood his three sons, Seymour, Mason, and Emmett. Mason died at sea while in command of the United States bark, *Shark*—he and most of the crew dying of yellow fever, during the Mexican War. Emmett, after killing two men in duels, died at sea off New York harbor during the same War, and Seymour, promoted to major for bravery at Palo Alto and Renesca de las Palma, was mortally wounded at Molina del Rey. The shock brought about the death of their mother and she was followed within a year by their father. The estate finally passed into the hands of Mason Hooe's children, and has gone out of the family now.

THE KING'S HIGHWAY

Travellers' Rest

Travellers' Rest is about four miles southward from Fredericksburg, close to the King's Highway. It was built about 1800 by John Gray, who afterwards moved to Wakefield, Westmoreland County, where Washington was born. But the home remained in the family, and the Grays have occupied it continuously ever since.

The family heirlooms, accumulated during the more than one hundred years which the family has occupied Travellers' Rest, are in mahogany, silver, china, and cross-stitch.

There is a portrait of Catherine Willis, the child-wife of Atcheson Gray, who became a widow within a year and, going with her parents to Florida, when fifteen, met Prince Achille Murat, son of the exiled King of Naples, and married him, becoming Princess Catherine Murat. She died in Florida, in 1867.

Travellers' Rest has an old and quiet air about it that makes it singularly attractive.

THE KING'S HIGHWAY

King George Courthouse

About fourteen miles from Fredericksburg, on the King's Highway, is the county seat of King George County. The courthouse is comparatively new, as are most of the buildings here, with the exception of one or two homes, notably the old Hunter home, which is distinctly of the past.

King George was the county in which Augustine Washington lived after he moved from Westmoreland, and the boyhood home of George Washington was in this county when he first bought it. But later Stafford County was allotted a part of the territory of King George, and Washington farm then became a part of Stafford County.

However, the oldest Washington records, except those which relate to the Westmoreland property of the family, are at King George. The will of Augustine, father of George Washington, is filed here.

During the War, King George was a cavalry outpost station for the Federal army, and General Bayard was here frequently.

THE KING'S HIGHWAY

Menokin

On the King's Highway, between Fredericksburg and Warsaw, and but a short way off the road, is the old Menokin estate, which was the home of Francis Lightfoot Lee. The house, like many another of its day, is not in good repair, but still reminds one of its historic past.

The picturesque "office" is interesting, being built of heavy stone in the architecture of its day.

The home at Menokin was built by Francis Lightfoot Lee when he married. He lived here all his life, with his wife. They had no children, and after a time the estate passed out of the hands of the Lees and, during and after the Civil War, when poverty was the common lot in Virginia, it was allowed to run down.

Francis Lightfoot Lee and his wife died in the same year, 1797, and are buried at Mt. Airy.

THE KING'S HIGHWAY

Mt. Airy

Mt. Airy is one of the most famed houses in this part of Virginia. It is not only a beautiful example of colonial architecture, but it has been in the Tayloe family since it was first built in 1747 by Colonel John Tayloe.

The mansion is three miles from Warsaw. It consists of a main central building connected by curved galleries to commodious wings on either side. The semicircle thus formed encloses the forecourt. The building is of brown stone, with rich, gray trimmings.

Inside are portraits of the Tayloe family—the Tayloes, Pages, Carters, and Governors George Plater, Benjamin Ogle, and Samuel Ogle, of Maryland. These are hardly more interesting than the portraits of the famous horses, which were owned by the Tayloe family in bygone days.

THE KING'S HIGHWAY

Sabine Hall

Near Mt. Airy—one inquires the way—is Sabine Hall, a manor house once owned by that great landholder, "King" Carter, who held almost the entire Northern Neck at one time. "King" Carter built the home for his youngest son, Colonel Landon Carter, in 1730.

Colonel Landon Carter was a man of large influence in his day, and history bears witness to his activities in pre-Revolutionary times.

In Sabine Hall is the portrait of the father of the Carters in Virginia, Robert, "King" Carter, of Carotoman. The Carters spread far and wide, which is not to be wondered at when it is remembered that "King" Carter had five wives, and his youngest son, Colonel Landon, married three, a Byrd and a Harrison and a Wormley. No one knows how many wives all the other progeny of the "King" had.

Sabine Hall is a beautiful place, and few country places in Virginia possess as many heirlooms.

THE KING'S HIGHWAY

Port Conway

Down the river, not on the King's Highway, but reached by starting from Fredericksburg on that road, is Port Conway. It was once a place of importance, where large ships came in from the Old World.

Mrs. Madison visited her home at Port Conway, for she came from there, and President James Madison was born in the village.

John Wilkes Booth, fleeing from Washington after he had killed Lincoln, reached this place with a broken leg. He was accompanied by Herold, his accomplice. A negro ferried them across to Port Royal, where Booth was killed and Herold captured.

Belle Grove and Walsingham are two old estates which are close to Port Conway, both of them well kept today.

THE KING'S HIGHWAY

Leedstown

Turning from the King's Highway after passing King George Courthouse—one must inquire the way—the traveller reaches a wharf and a few houses by the river, over which there is an air of desertion.

This is the famous Port of Leedstown, of which Judge Brooke wrote that it is "one of the most historic places in the country," where once came the "polished furniture, beautiful china, the massive silver, and the elegant dresses," which adorned the homes and people of the Northern Neck when it was "The Athens of America."

Leedstown was born in 1683, the same year as Philadelphia. Here in 1776 were passed the "Leedstown Resolutions" at a meeting presided over by Richard Henry Lee. These resolutions, passed ten years before the Declaration of Independence was signed, constituted practically the first movement toward a declaration of freedom for America.

In the resolutions the signers, among whom were men of the great families—Masons, Lees, Hooes, Washingtons, Monroes, Brockenbroughs, Balls, Seddons, and others—bound themselves, at every hazard, to each

other, * * to God * * to the Country * * and paying no regard to danger or to death, to exert every faculty to prevent the execution of the Stamp Act.

Shiploads of tobacco and wheat once loaded here for European ports, and once the gentry of the day and the ladies came here to see the ships come in, or to embark upon them for voyages afar or, up and down the river.

THE KING'S HIGHWAY

Warsaw

Warsaw, the county seat of Richmond County, is about seventy miles from Fredericksburg, on a lateral of the King's Highway, and is reminiscent of the early days when it was of more importance than now. The courthouse here is interesting.

The old courthouse, long since abandoned for a larger building, is used now for the clerk's office, and in it are stored records of great interest and value. This building has walls almost two feet thick, and is heated still by the great open fireplace at one end.

The records here cover a great length of time, and in them is the history of many of the old homes and

plantations, which carry with them the history of the great families of the old Northern Neck. Richmond County was one of the first separate counties created, and Warsaw one of the oldest county seats.

THE KING'S HIGHWAY

Montross

Montross is the capital of Westmoreland County, where the Washingtons and Lees and many other famous families lived, and was the center of that part of the Northern Neck which was once referred to as "The Athens of America."

The old courthouse here is filled with interesting and valuable records. But what will most interest everyone who goes into it are the portraits of prominent men which adorn the courthouse walls. These have been donated by families or interested people from time to time, and the group has grown and become a widely known collection.

Montross is about forty miles from Fredericksburg, and it is a center from which the traveller can radiate to dozens of points of interest. There is a hotel here, and it is convenient to such places as Wakefield and Warsaw, and the old homes of this section of Virginia.

THE KING'S HIGHWAY

Stratford

The famed house where Lighthorse Harry Lee was born and where his son Robert E. Lee was born, as well as many others of the famous Lee family, is forty-two miles from Fredericksburg, and is reached by following the King's Highway.

Stratford was built between 1727 and 1730, by Colonel Thomas Lee. It is almost exactly as it was in its earliest days, and though it is not a striking example of Virginia architecture, it has a sturdy, dependable look, and is a roomy and comfortable house. Generations of the Lee family lived there, or were born there and moved to other homes in the neighborhood.

Stratford has been purchased and is to be preserved by an association organized for that purpose. It is hoped a highway will connect Stratford with Wakefield some time soon.

THE KING'S HIGHWAY

Wakefield

The estate which belonged to Augustine Washington, and where he lived with his second wife, Mary Ball Washington, "The Rose of Epping Forest" (Epping Forest was her father's home not far from Wakefield), is about forty-six miles from Fredericksburg on the King's Highway, and then two miles on a lateral road. A sign tells the traveller where to turn.

The house was completely destroyed by fire in 1779, but government engineers have recently traced the foundations and reconstructed, on paper, the old house. The Wakefield Association, which will have government aid, intends to restore the place, and John D. Rockefeller has promised a large sum in event that a like sum is raised by the Association.

It is also planned, by the government, to build a fine highway to Wakefield.

A monument now marks the site of the old home.

George Washington lived here until he was about three years old, when the family moved, first to a place near Mt. Vernon and, in 1738, moved to the Washington boyhood farm (Pine Grove or the Ferry farm) near Fredericksburg.

In the cemetery here are buried George Washington's father, Augustine Washington, his grandfather, Lawrence Washington, and his great-grandfather, Colonel John Washington, "the immigrant," who came from England and settled here. To reach the cemetery take the first road to the right leaving Wakefield (about one and a half miles from the monument), drive along this road one mile, open a gate at the left of the road and walk 300 yards through the field to the cemetery. This road ends at the Potomac River, a half mile further on.

The original home was probably near the cemetery, and Wakefield was built later on.

THE KING'S HIGHWAY

Epping Forest

Following the King's Highway past Warsaw to Nuttsville, one comes to a road leading past Ball's Mill Pond and to the house at Epping Forest—two miles. But he who comes suddenly on the mansion house now will be disappointed. The home where Colonel Joseph Ball lived and where Mary, destined to be known first as "The Rose of Epping Forest" and later

as "The Mother of Washington," is far from what it was. Time and neglect have changed it. Few of its colonial features remain.

But about it are the oaks and cedars and sycamores under which Mary Washington played, and beyond the orchard is the spot where it is believed the parents of Mary are resting.

The old cookhouse, with its massive brick fireplace, is still here, as is the old coach house. Decendants of the Ball family live in the house and care for what remain of the colonial buildings.

THE KING'S HIGHWAY

Old Christ's Church

Not far from Irvington, which is at the lower end of the Tidewater Trail, near where the Rappahannock River meets the Chesapeake Bay, and about eighty-eight miles from Fredericksburg, is old Christ's Church, one of the very oldest churches in Virginia. It was built in 1732.

In the churchyard is buried "King" Carter, original owner of the whole Northern Neck and one of the

greatest landowners in Virginia, so affluent that he was given the title of "King." There is also buried here a man over whose grave is a monument with a skull and crossbones on it, and it is believed that this is a pirate, killed in some raid upon the longshore towns, or possibly captured and put to death. There is no wording on the tomb.

The church is an interesting type, with high pews which prevent the congregation from seeing anyone except the preacher, who stood in a high pulpit and looked down into all the pews. The Church is well preserved, and has never been remodeled.

The Battlefields

Fredericksburg, in the Civil War, was the gateway to Richmond. For this reason there were three distinct campaigns about it: Fredericksburg, 1862; Chancellorsville, 1863; Wilderness-Spotsylvania, 1864. The first two resulted in decisive Southern victories. In the last campaign Grant fought drawn battles, which he turned to his advantage by moving sidewise past Lee.

The objective in the battles about here was always the "Road to Richmond." This was the shortest route.

Further west the march was long, with a long line of communications behind. Eastward the rivers were too wide to be bridged, hence Federal generals tried to pass in the vicinity of Fredericksburg.

TROOPS ENGAGED AND LOSSES IN ALL CAMPAIGNS

Battle of	Troops Engaged		Killed and Wounded		Total Killed and Wounded
	Union	Confederate	Union	Confederate	
Fredericksburg..	98,791	71,006	12,858	5,309	18,167
Chancellorsville..	134,202	59,436	16,845	10,281	27,167
The Wilderness	127,471	64,000	17,666	11,400	29,066
Spotsylvania.....	110,500	54,671	18,399	11,578	29,977
Total.....	407,964	249,113	65,768	38,568	104,377

FREDERICKSBURG

Burnside's Pontoon Crossings

General Burnside, who moved his army to Fredericksburg in mid-November, 1862, waited until December 11th for pontoons. He began to put his bridges over on that day in the face of fire from Barksdale's Mississippians, who were lodged on the river bank.

The first bridge was completed from the Stafford side to the foot of Hawk Street, where there is a marker, and most of Sumner's Right Grand Division crossed on this. The second bridge touched Fredericksburg almost at the steamboat wharf, where there is a marker, and most of Hooker's Center Grand Division crossed on it. The third pontoon was just above the present Mannsfield Hall Country Club, and Franklin's Left Grand Division crossed here.

Hooker's and Sumner's men, about sixty thousand, slept in the streets of Fredericksburg the night of the 12th, and attacked on the 13th. Franklin, with a large number of guns protecting his pontoon, marshaled has forty thousand men on the plains near Mannsfield Hall, and attacked on the 13th.

FREDERICKSBURG

Marye's Heights

(December 13, 1863)

Go out Hanover Street to Sunken Road.

A granite stone at the Sunken Road and the corner of Brompton estate marks the battlefield of Fredericksburg.

Confederate artillery crowned the Heights all along when the battle was fought, December 13, 1863. Infantry four lines deep held the Sunken Road. Lee commanded these troops.

Burnside's Federal army charged across the then open plain, being mowed down by the artillery fire and the concentrated fire from the road, almost like machine gun fire.

Eight Federal divisions, totalling about forty thousand men, hurled themselves against the Stone Wall. The Confederates held them back with a total loss at the spot of 848 men, while Burnside lost 7,615 killed and wounded on the plain. Many wounded froze to death in the night.

Total losses at Fredericksburg, including all points: Union, 12,858; Confederate, 3,309. Troops engaged: Union, 98,791; Confederate, 71,006.

FREDERICKSBURG

Hamilton's Crossing Battle

(December 13, 1863)

Franklin's Right Grand Division (about 45,000 men) of General Burnside's army crossed on pontoons near Mannsfield Hall (three and a half miles below Fredericksburg, on the Tidewater Trail).

Stonewall Jackson held the Heights here. Franklin attacked him, and once Meade's division broke Jackson's line. But the Confederates repaired the break and drove Franklin back.

General Franklin was supposed to attack at the same time the attack was made at Marye's Heights, but he attacked earlier and was through before Burnside began, thus losing the battle for Burnside.

General Franklin did not send into action more than ten to fifteen thousand men in all, though he had about the same number of men as were at Fredericksburg.

A pyramid erected by the R. F. & P. Railroad marks the furtherest advance, in a general way, of the Northern troops, and also the center of the lines of charge.

Chancellorsville Battlefield

(May 1–3, 1863)

Chancellorsville, where Lee met Hooker's army and defeated it, May 1, 2, 3, 1863, is ten miles from Fredericksburg on the Orange Turnpike, and is reached by going out Commerce Street. The Chancellor house was almost destroyed by fire, and recently was further damaged by wind. General Hooker's headquarters were in the house, and while leaning against a column, May 3d, he was stunned by a shell which struck the column.

At Chancellorsville Jackson, marching around Hooker's army, attacked Hooker's right and drove the forces before him, until he had almost reached Chancellorsville. Jackson was wounded the second day of the battle, May 2d. The next day Stuart took command of Jackson's corps, united his wing with Anderson's and McLaw's division under Lee, and fierce fighting took place in the Chancellorsville fields, until Hooker withdrew, to cross the Rappahannock in retreat, May 4th.

Salem Church Battlefield

(May 4, 5, 1863)

Old Salem Church was the scene of the battle which bears that name, May 4 and 5, 1863. Hooker's main army was at Chancellorsville but had finished fighting when this battle, planned to be simultaneous with his action, began.

Hooker had left Sedgwick at Fredericksburg, and Sedgwick was to attack Lee from the rear when the Chancellorsville battle began. Sedgwick, with about 35,000 troops, was slow in moving, and after he had taken Marye's Heights in the second Battle of Fredericksburg, was held back along the Orange Turnpike by a small force which fought from crest to crest. He reached Salem Church and attacked a small Confederate force at 5 p. m., May 4th, when Hooker was already in retreat. The next day General Lee was able to release large forces from Chancellorsville and, attacking Sedgwick, drove him back across the Rappahannock.

In the Chancellorsville campaign, which includes Salem Church battle, the Union losses were 16,845 and the Confederate losses 12,463; total, 29,308.

Wilderness Battlefield

(May 5, 6, 1864)

On the Old Orange Turnpike, two and a half miles beyond Wilderness Run, is a marker placed by the U. D. C. where the battle of the Wilderness started, when Lee's and Grant's armies first met. There are well-preserved trenches here.

At Old Wilderness Tavern, before Wilderness Run is reached, the Brock Road runs southward toward Spotsylvania. It crosses the Plank Road three miles south, where the heaviest fighting of the battle occurred. This road junction is regarded by some military writers as the crucial point in the Civil War.

The battle was fought May 5 and 6, 1864. Grant came to the Wilderness from Culpeper, and Lee marched from Orange to meet him. During the fighting the woods caught fire and burned the wounded. The Union losses were 17,666 men, the Confederate 10,641; total, 28,307.

The Wilderness was a drawn battle, and on May 7th, Grant marched sidewise to Spotsylvania Courthouse by the Brock road, Lee marching to intercept him by the Shady Grove road.

Battle of Spotsylvania

(May 8–21, 1864)

Spotsylvania is ten miles from Fredericksburg. Go out the Richmond road to four-mile fork and there keep to the right.

The Battle of Spotsylvania began two days after that of the Wilderness. Grant, seeking to move toward Richmond had been checked in the Wilderness, and moved sidewise to Spotslyvania. Here Lee met him.

The battle began May 8th, at Alsops. It raged May 9th and 10th, in Perry's field (near Sedgwick monument), and on one side of the Bloody Angle. On May 12th, the terrific fight at Bloody Angle occurred, when about 20,000 men fell on a space of about two hundred acres, and the dead were piled in the trenches six deep. A tree, twenty-four inches in diameter, was cut down by rifle fire. Monuments are here to several regiments.

The battle was drawn. After it Grant again moved, sidewise, to the R. F. & P. Railroad, and to another Richmond road.

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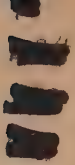

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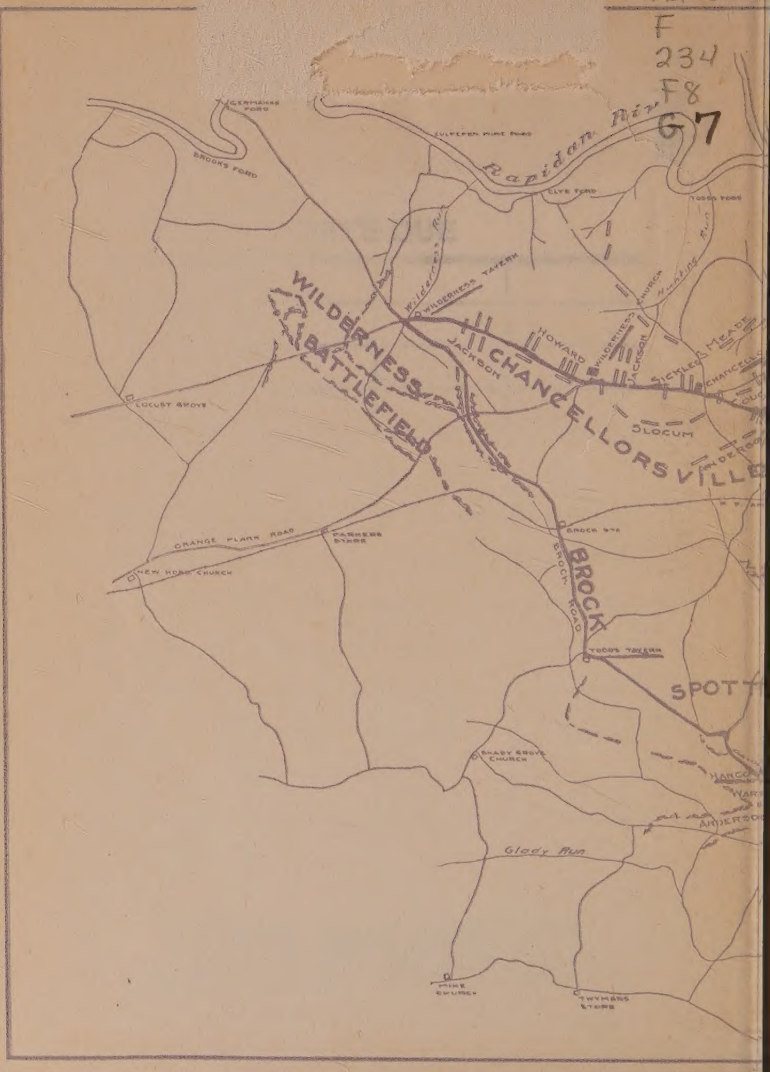
Rapidan River
Germanna Ford
Brooks Ford
Fulpeper Mine Road
Elys Ford
Todds Ford
Wilderness Run
Wilderness Tavern
Howard
Wilderness Church
Hunting Run
Sickles Meade
Chancellorsville
Wilderness
Battlefield
Jackson
Locust Grove
Orange Plank Road
Farmers Store
Brock Road
Brock
Todds Tavern
Shady Grove Church
Glady Run
Mine Church
Thymans Store

BATTLEFIELD MAP

OF THE

FREDERICKSBURG - SPOTSYLVANIA

BATTLEFIELD PARK